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# Food and Nutrition

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## MORE PROTEIN FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FEEDING

ADDITIONAL FOODS to provide more protein are being authorized for distribution in USDA's Supplemental Food Program for low-income pregnant women, new mothers, infants and young children.

Peanut butter and scrambled egg mix will be added to the foods currently being distributed in the 324 areas of the country that carry out the supplemental program in cooperation with public medical and health agencies. An increase in the distribution rates for fruit juices is also being authorized.

Foods presently being distributed to approximately 185,000 women and children include: evaporated milk, instant non-fat dry milk, enriched quick-cooking farina, canned meat or poultry, canned fruit juices, canned vegetables or fruit, and additionally for infants, instant rice cereal and corn syrup blend.

These foods are made available for distribution to low-income women and infants who are vulnerable to malnutrition, in addition to USDA-donated foods or food stamps that the family may be getting.

## Navajo Babies Get Special Formula

NAVAJO BABIES ARE NOW getting a special infant formula when they come to the health unit at Fort Defiance, Arizona. And their mothers get a supply of the

instant dry infant formula which will last them until their next scheduled visit to the health unit.

This is part of the agreement between USDA and the Public Health Service to meet nutritional needs of the children. Being supplied the formula at each visit also encourages the mothers to bring the babies in for their medical appointments.

## ECONOMIC IMPACT OF FOOD STAMPS STUDIED IN THREE COUNTIES

USDA's ECONOMIC RESEARCH SERVICE has studied the economic effect of food stamps in three counties: Haywood County, a small rural county in Southwest Tennessee with 6,400 food stamp recipients; Appanoose County, a small farming area in Southern Iowa with 1,500 recipients; and Chaves County, a diversified rural-urban county in Eastern New Mexico with 6,000 recipients. The study covered the Food Stamp Program as it operated in these counties during the calendar year 1970.

The impact of the program on annual output in Haywood County totaled approximately \$1.5 million; Appanoose County, over a quarter million dollars; and Chaves County, approximately \$1.5 million. Translated into employment, these figures meant an increase of 60 people added to the work force in Haywood County, 11 in Appanoose County, and 59 in Chaves County.

These benefits compare with total local



program costs of \$35,000 in Haywood County (\$16,000 of which was borne by the county), \$15,000 in Appanoose County, and \$30,000 in Chaves County.

ERS intends to publish the results of the study. Another study with similar objectives but employing different methodology is now underway in two California counties.

### **PROJECT 93 REACHES RURAL FAMILIES**

THE FOOD STAMP PROGRAM'S outreach efforts have a new ally in Nebraska. Project 93, a private organization financed by OEO's Emergency Food and Medical Assistance Program and backed by the University of Nebraska, is geared to seeking out rural families in need of food help. The recipients may range from an individual in need of food stamps and emergency supplies of fresh food to a small community school which does not have a school lunch program.

Project 93 currently is operating out of three field offices, one each in Columbia, Norfolk, and North Platte. From these offices nine representatives comb their regions for those in need.

### **Cash Change To Be Prohibited**

RETAIL FOOD STORES will no longer issue cash as change in food stamp transactions. Recent revisions in food stamp regulations require food stores to issue credit slips or tokens to food stamp shoppers for amounts up to and including 49 cents. The credits will be good only for eligible foods in the same store or the same food chain. For change in amounts of 50 cents or more grocers will continue to give unendorsed 50-cent food stamp coupons.

The revisions also state that deposits on bottles or other returnable containers of eligible foods must now be paid by the purchaser in cash, instead of with food stamps as was the previous practice.

These revised regulations will become effective on March 1, 1972.

### **A Case of Negligence**

ON NOVEMBER 1, USDA issued a claim for \$230,274 against the State of Illinois for losses incurred because Cook County was "grossly negligent in its administration of the (food stamp) program." The claim was made by FNS after an extensive review of the operation of the food stamp program in Cook County during the Teamsters' strike of 1970.

This review documented a loss in free food coupons which were erroneously issued because Emergency Authorization to Purchase Cards were fraudulently obtained (i.e. stolen and/or bought) or issued to applicants who gave false information.

FNS is required by the Food Stamp Regulations to make a claim when it is determined that there has been gross negligence or fraud on the part of the State agency.

### **NUMBER OF SCHOOLS ENTERING NSLP SIGNIFICANT**

A SURVEY TAKEN in October by the FNS Regional Offices and State Agencies for the National Advisory Council on Child Nutrition reveals that 3,275 schools representing an enrollment of 18 million children have begun participating in the Child Nutrition Programs since the summer of 1970.

These schools had previously offered no food service. This gain is even more significant in view of the steadily decreasing number of schools in the Nation.

### **Breakfast And Nonfood Assistance Needs Surveyed**

THE FOOD AND NUTRITION Service, in accordance with Public Law 92-153, is making a survey of all States to determine the needs for additional funds to



carry out the School Breakfast and Non-food Assistance Programs during Fiscal Year 1972, ending June 30, 1972.

The School Breakfast Program helps provide breakfast at school for children from low-income neighborhoods, or who ride long distances on school buses. The Nonfood Assistance Program assists needy schools in acquiring the necessary equipment to start a food service for attending children.

## FOOD STAMPS AND SCHOOL LUNCHES REACH RECORD NUMBER OF NEEDY IN 1971

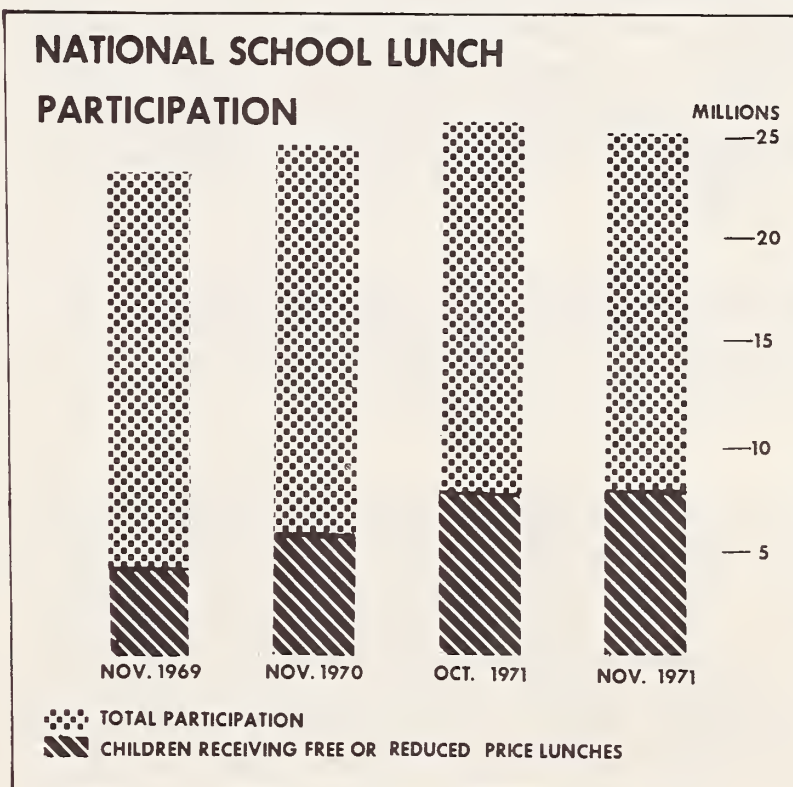
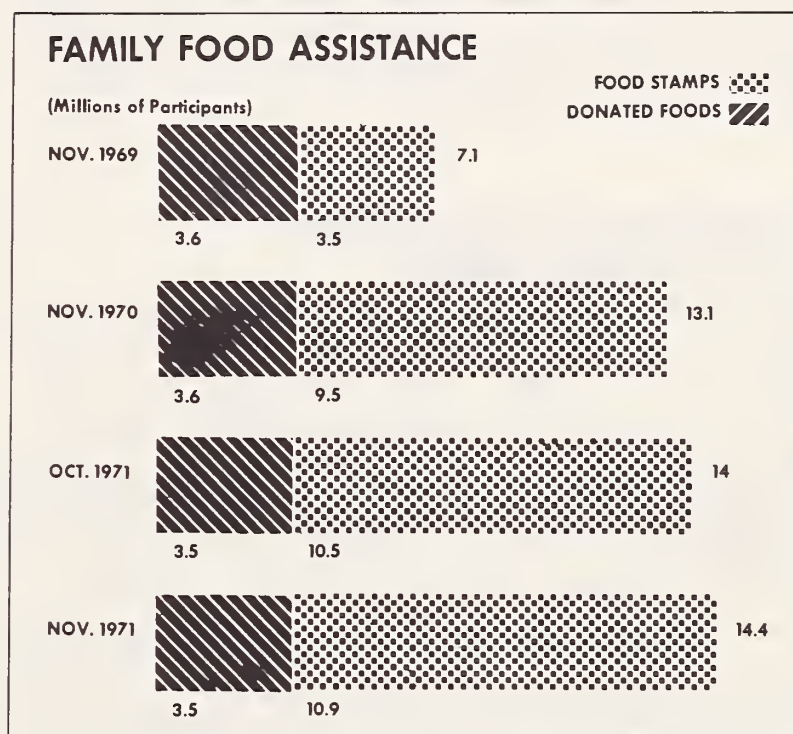
AN ESTIMATED 7.8 MILLION needy children received free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Program in November, and participation in the Food Stamp Program climbed to a new high of 10.9 million people.

A total of 25.1 million children took part in the National School Lunch Program in November, compared with 24.2 million a year earlier. The record 7.8 million children who received free or reduced-price lunches exceeded the November 1970 figure by more than 2 million, and compares with the previous peak of 7.3 million in April 1971.

In addition to the 10.9 million food stamp recipients, another 3.5 million people received donated foods through the Food Distribution Program in November, with only 10 of the Nation's 3,129 counties and independent cities uncommitted to either of the two programs and seven others expected to start programs soon.

The November total of 14.4 million people marked the 10th consecutive month in which combined participation in family food programs has reached 14 million or more. The November 1970 total was 13.1 million--9.5 million food stamp users and 3.6 million donated food recipients.

Continued moderate increases in food stamp participation are expected in the coming few months, both as a result of expansion of the program into the some 200 counties already designated for the program, and further implementation of the new regulations. In January, another 20 States will begin operating under the new rules, making a total of 29. The Food Stamp Program is administered by State welfare agencies in 46 States and the District of Columbia.





## **N.C. DEVELOPS SERVICE TRAINING COURSE**

THE NORTH CAROLINA Department of Public Instruction is developing a training course in procurement. The series of 15 30-minute television programs aims to promote better training techniques for school food service personnel.

The main objective is to assist school food service managers and supervisors to acquire the necessary skills for quantity bid and specification buying; and, as a result, to enable them to provide nutritious meals to more children at less cost.

## **SPRINGFIELD AND KOCHER TO FILL NEW POSTS**

JAMES E. SPRINGFIELD has been designated as Acting Deputy Administrator for Management for FNS. Mr. Springfield will be in charge of administrative support for operations of all USDA food assistance, child nutrition and school lunch programs. Federal contributions to these programs total about \$4 billion in the current fiscal year ending June 30.

Mr. Springfield has been director of the Food Stamp Division since 1970, and during the past year directed the development and implementation of new food stamp regulations resulting from the January 1971 amendments to the Food Stamp Act.

The new Acting Director of the Food Stamp Division is James H. Kocher, who has served as Deputy Director of the program since February 1971.

## **D.C. Commission Fosters Cooperation**

MILDRED BROOKS, executive secretary of the District of Columbia Mayor's Commission on Food, Nutrition, and Health, received a plaque at the Commission's First Anniversary celebration late in November. The Commission was estab-

lished on August 3, 1970, following the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health.

This plaque was given "for her inspiration, initiative and foresightedness that gave birth to the D.C. Mayor's Commission on Food, Nutrition, and Health, Washington, D.C. 1971." Through subcommittee activity and community participation, the inscription reads, "greater understanding and cooperation is developing among governmental agencies, industry, educational institutions and the community."

## **Handbook To Assist Food Service Managers**

A CONTRACT TO DEVELOP the first national food service financial management system handbook for schools and institutions participating in child feeding programs has been announced by USDA.

This system will help the Nation's schools attain uniformity in their food service accounting and in developing uniform procedures on reporting critical data.

The public accounting firm of Peat, Marwick, Mitchell and Co., of Washington, D.C., will develop the uniform child food service accounting system handbook with the cooperation of FNS personnel, State school lunch directors, and local school officials. The handbooks are to be completed by April 1972.

## **Satellite Feeding Continues to Expand**

THE CHILD NUTRITION Division reports that 576 central school lunch kitchens, servicing 5321 schools, are operating in 39 States. This is nearly 7 percent of the total schools participating in the National School Lunch Program. The Midwest Region, with 227 kitchens and 2,040 schools, has made the greatest use of this feeding concept.

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## SECRETARY BUTZ REVISES FOOD STAMP POLICY

THE FOOD AND NUTRITION Service will modify the new food stamp regulations so that no eligible participants in the food stamp program will lose benefits. This action was ordered by Secretary of Agriculture Earl L. Butz on January 16 after consultation with Governors of several States who are now in the process of implementing the new regulations.

"The Governors asked me to review the impact of the new regulations on the people in their States," Secretary Butz said. "I have determined that the changes being ordered...are necessary to prevent any hardship to food stamp participants."

The food stamp reforms, enacted by Congress in January 1971, established uniform national eligibility standards. Modifications of these income standards, as required by this recent decision, will allow all households who meet other eligibility requirements to continue

their participation in the program. Each food stamp household will also receive benefits as high or higher than they received under the old regulations.

The Department will continue to provide States with technical assistance necessary to minimize difficulties relating to the implementation of the new regulations.

"While benefits paid are expected to increase as a result of these modifications to the regulations, the funds already appropriated by the Congress should be sufficient to cover total program costs in fiscal year 1972," Secretary Butz reported.

Referring to his action to guard against the loss of food stamp benefits, the Secretary said, "The changes will be effective in all States. Our goal remains the same--to have a national program with equitable benefits in every State."

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